

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GENEVA 04176 01 OF 02 180456Z

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-10

L-03 EB-08 AID-05 HEW-06 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

OES-07 /112 W

-----037183 180547Z /11

R 171747Z MAR 78

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7373

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 04176

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: SGEN OCON SZ

SUBJECT: SIXTH PLANNING CONFERENCE ON THE UN EUROPEAN
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

1. THE SIXTH PLANNING CONFERENCE ON THE UN EUROPEAN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM MET IN GENEVA MARCH 13-16. PARTICIPANTS CAME FROM 26 EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, PLUS CANADA, ISRAEL, AND THE UNITED STATES. THE U.S. PARTICIPANTS WERE DOROTHY LALLY, CHIEF, INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES, OFFICE OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE, AND LAURENCE WYATT, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, DHEW. MRS. HELVI SIPILA, ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE U.N. FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS, OPENED THE CONFERENCE.

2. THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (ESDP) WAS BEGUN IN 1950 AS A TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAM, AND IS ADMINISTERED BY THE DIVISION OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE U.N. OFFICE IN GENEVA. THE ESDP IS FUNDED IN PART BY THE U.N. AND IN PART BY VOLUNTARY GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TRUST FUND FOR EUROPEAN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT ESTABLISHED IN 1975. THE ESDP PROVIDES FOR EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, IDEAS AND EXPERIENCE IN THE SOCIAL FIELD AMONG ALL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES THROUGH SEMINARS AND EXPERT MEETINGS, SHORT-
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 GENEVA 04176 01 OF 02 180456Z

TERM EXPERT MISSIONS, STUDY VISITS AND A NETWORK OF NATIONAL CORRESPONDENTS IN SOCIAL WELFARE RESEARCH.

3. A MAJOR CRITICAL ISSUE FACING THE CONFERENCE WAS THE FUTURE OF THE PROGRAM. THE U.N. COMMITTEE ON PROGRAM COORDINATION (CPC), 17TH SESSION, 1977, RECOMMENDED IN EFFECT THE TERMINATION OF THE ESDP IN ITS PRESENT FORM.

THE 63RD ECOSOC, 1977, ENDORSED THIS RECOMMENDATION; HOWEVER, THE 32ND UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAS DEFERRED CONSIDERATION OF IT UNTIL THE 33RD UNGA, SEPTEMBER 1978. THE CPC IS CURRENTLY UNDERTAKING AN EVALUATION OF THE WHOLE UN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, INCLUDING THE EUROPEAN REGION. THE REASON FOR THE CPC RECOMMENDATION, AS STATED BY ITS CHAIRMAN TO THE UNGA FIFTH COMMITTEE, WAS THAT "DEVELOPING COUNTRY MEMBERS FELT THAT PURELY EUROPEAN PROGRAMS SHOULD NOT BE FINANCED THROUGH THE HEADQUARTERS BUDGET" OF THE UN. MRS. SIPILA EMPHASIZED TO THE CONFERENCE THAT UNGA ACTION ON THE CPC RECOMMENDATION HAS MERELY BEEN DEFERRED, AND IN NO SENSE CANCELLED.

4. AFTER CONSIDERING THIS SITUATION, THE SIXTH PLANNING CONFERENCE UNANIMOUSLY AFFIRMED ITS BELIEF IN THE VALUE OF THE ESDP AS A "DUAL INSTRUMENT" - WHICH PROMOTES BOTH SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN EUROPE AND ALSO WORLDWIDE UN ACTIVITIES TO ASSIST SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT. IN SO DOING, THE CONFERENCE REJECTED THE CPC'S VIEW THAT ESDP ACTIVITIES ARE PURELY EUROPEAN. PARTICIPANTS FROM A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES TOOK A LEADING ROLE IN COMMENTING ON THE REGIONAL AND WORLDWIDE VALUE OF THE ESDP -- NOTABLY, FROM THE NETHERLANDS, SCANDINAVIA, HUNGARY AND ROMANIA. SPEAKERS FROM THE LATTER TWO COUNTRIES EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THEY ARE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. "EAST-WEST" VIEWS ON THE VALUE OF THE PROGRAM AND THE NEED TO CONTINUE IT WERE THE SAME. UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 GENEVA 04176 01 OF 02 180456Z

THE CONFERENCE CALLED ATTENTION TO THE SPIRIT OF UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION WHICH UNDERLIES THE ESDP, AND WHICH FURTHERS THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL POLICIES NOT ONLY IN ALL OF EUROPE BUT ALSO THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

5. THE CONFERENCE FURTHER EXPRESSED THE CONVICTION THAT ESDP SHOULD BE MAINTAINED AND REINFORCED AS A UN ACTIVITY, WITH CONTINUING MODEST SUPPORT FROM THE UN'S REGULAR BUDGET. THE UN PROVIDES ABOUT \$250,000 A YEAR FOR THE ESDP, WHILE MEMBER COUNTRIES ARE VOLUNTARILY CONTRIBUTING ABOUT \$100,000 A YEAR IN CASH AND AN ESTIMATED \$400,000 IN SERVICES. IN OTHER UN REGIONS, THE PROPORTION OF THE UN REGIONAL COMMISSION BUDGETS DEVOTED TO SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IS GENERALLY ABOUT 4 PERCENT; IN EUROPE, THE U.N. FUNDING FOR THE ESDP IS EQUAL TO ABOUT 2.6 PERCENT OF THE ECE'S BUDGET. HOWEVER, NONE OF THE ECE BUDGET IS ALLOTTED TO SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT. A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ECE TOLD THE CONFERENCE THAT ECE IS NOT ANXIOUS TO TAKE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, AS IT IS FOCUSING ON ISSUES SUCH AS EAST-WEST TRADE. UNCLASSIFIED

6. THE CONFERENCE EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THERE IS AMPLE JUSTIFICATION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF THE CPC'S RECOMMENDATION, AND REQUESTED THE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL TO BRING ITS VIEWS TO THE ATTENTION OF THE CPC AND THE UN LEGISLATIVE BODIES, SO THAT THEY MAY BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT DURING THE EVALUATION OF UN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES TO TAKE PLACE IN 1978.

7. IN TAKING THIS ACTION, THE CONFERENCE HAD IN MIND THE URGENT TIME FACTOR, IN VIEW OF THE FOLLOWING UN TIME TABLE:

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GENEVA 04176 02 OF 02 180504Z

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-10

L-03 EB-08 AID-05 HEW-06 OES-07 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 /112 W

-----037355 180546Z /14

R 171747Z MAR 78

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7374

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 GENEVA 04176

A. CURRENT - TO BE CONSIDERED AT A MEETING IN APRIL/MAY
- CPC EVALUATION OF UN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING THE ESDP.

B. JULY - ECOSOC (GENEVA) CONSIDERS CPC RECOMMENDATIONS.

C. SEPTEMBER - 33RD UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY RECEIVES ECOSOC
RECOMMENDATIONS.

7. ROLE OF U.S. PARTICIPANTS. THIS IS THE FIRST PLANNING CONFERENCE SINCE THE US BECAME A FULL MEMBER OF THE ESDP. WHILE MAINTAINING A MODERATELY LOW PROFILE, AS COMING FROM A NEW MEMBER COUNTRY, THE US PARTICIPANTS JOINED THE DISCUSSION ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS. DURING CONSIDERATION OF THE FUTURE OF THE PROGRAM AND ITS POSSIBLE TERMINATION, DR LALLY REFERRED TO THE HEW/OHDS ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ESDP ACTIVITIES FOR THE U.S. SHE CITED CURRENT POLICY ISSUES ON ACCESS TO SOCIAL SERVICES, ASSESSMENT OF UNMET NEEDS, AND IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF SOCIAL PROGRAMS. IN THE REVIEW OF CURRENT DEVELOPMENTAL TRENDS (ITEM 7-A),

MR. WYATT GAVE A SUMMARY REPORT ON RECENT MAJOR EVENTS IN THE DEPT OF H.E.W. WHICH ARE RELATED TO MAJOR SOCIAL TRENDS AND TO MAIN THEMES OF THE CONFERENCE - E.G., WELFARE REFORM, HEALTH MEASURES, AND DEPARTMENTAL REORGANIZATION.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 GENEVA 04176 02 OF 02 180504Z

WYATT ALSO REFERRED TO A NUMBER OF OVERALL INTERNATIONAL U.N. EFFORTS TO WHICH ESDP EFFORTS ARE, OR SHOULD BE, RELATED, I.E., THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD, 1979; THE WOMEN'S DECADE AND 1980 CONFERENCE; THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR DISABLED PERSONS, 1981; AND THE POSSIBLE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE AGING, 1982. HE ALSO COMMENTED ON THE RELEVANCE OF ESDP ACTIVITIES TO SPECIFIC HEW SOCIAL ISSUES, SUCH AS THE CONTINUUM OF NEEDS, ACCESS TO SERVICES, INTERRELATING SERVICES, AND CROSS-CUTTING COMPARISON OF PROGRAMS. IN THE REVIEW OF THE FOUR-YEAR PLAN (7-B), DR LALLY INDICATED INTEREST OF THE U.S., D.H.E.W., IN A NUMBER OF SPECIFIC PROPOSED ACTIVITIES, AND OFFERED TO ARRANGE FOR HEW TO HOST A STUDY GROUP. LALLY AND WYATT ALSO HAD FRIENDLY INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH PARTICIPANTS FROM MANY OF THE OTHER COUNTRIES, BOTH EAST AND WEST.

8. OTHER CONFERENCE ACTIONS: THE CONFERENCE ADOPTED . TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR ITS 12 MEMBER STANDING GROUP AND REVIEWED PROGRESS DURING THE PERIOD 1944-1977. PROGRAMS ON COMMUNITY INTEGRATION OF SOCIAL SERVICES, MANPOWER AND TRAINING, OPEN CARE OF THE ELDERLY, DREW COMMENDATIONS FROM THE PARTICIPANTS. ACTIVITIES REFLECT GOOD COOPERATION BETWEEN UN SOCIAL AFFAIRS, WHO, ECE, AND MAJOR NONGOVERNMENTAL OFFICES. AN ESDP NEWSLETTER, PUBLISHED FOUR TIMES A YEAR, IS NOW REACHING A WIDE GROUP OF COUNTRIES SHARING EXPERIENCE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

9. FOUR MAIN THEMES PROVIDE THE FRAMEWORK FOR THE NEXT PERIOD OF WORK: STRENGTHENING OF THE KNOWLEDGE BASE OF PLANNING AND POLICY-MAKING; ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SOCIAL POLICIES AND PROGRAMS; ENSURING THE MORE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME, BENEFITS AND SERVICES; PROMOTING FULLER PARTICIPATION IN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL LIFE.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 GENEVA 04176 02 OF 02 180504Z

A SERIES OF STUDY GROUPS, SEMINARS, AND EXPERT GROUPS WILL IMPLEMENT THE THEMES FOCUSING FOR EXAMPLE ON METHODS FOR SOCIAL PLANNING AND REPORTING, CRITERIA FOR EFFECTIVE CHILD WELFARE SERVICES, NEW FORMS OF MUTUAL HELP IN COMMUNITY GROUPS, ACCESS TO SOCIAL SERVICES, PRODUCTIVE

LIFE IN OLD AGE; INTEGRATION OF THE DISABLED IN THE COMMUNITY, AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS OF CURRENT RESEARCH. THE EUROPEAN CENTER FOR SOCIAL WELFARE TRAINING AND RESEARCH PRESENTED ITS RELATED PROGRAM FOR REVIEW. THE CENTER'S ACTIVITIES ARE BEING CLOSELY COORDINATED WITH THE ESDP. DHEW'S OFFER TO HOST A UN EXPERT GROUP IN 1979 DN ACCESS TO SERVICES WAS WELCOMED AS PART OF THIS FORWARD PROGRAM. THIS COULD BE ASSOCIATED WITH A NATIONAL MEETING SUCH AS THE RECENTLY ANNOUNCED WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON FAMILIES, DECEMBER 1979. A U.S. SUGGESTION FOR THE NEW WORK PROGRAM INCLUDES LONG-TERM CARE OF THE CHRONICALLY ILL, ELDERLY, RETARDED - A TOPIC OF PRIORITY INTEREST FOR MANY OF THE PARTICIPANTS. VANDEN HEUVEL

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, SOCIAL CHANGE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GENEVA04176
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780120-0532
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780356/aaaabuzg.tel
Line Count: 237
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1d9a17c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3294838
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SIXTH PLANNING CONFERENCE ON THE UN EUROPEAN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
TAGS: SGEN, OCON, SZ
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1d9a17c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014